

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 07130 261552Z
ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN
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INFO USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 07130

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, NATO, CSCE, GW
SUBJECT: IS DRAFT REPORT ON PREPARATIONS FOR BELGRADE

REFS: (A) STATE 093362; (B) BONN 07057 (NOTAL);
(C) STATE 088509

1. AS INSTRUCTED REF A WE CONVEYED U.S. PREFERENCES TO FONOFF CSCE DIRECTOR JOETZE ON APRIL 26. AFTER READING OUR REACTIONS TO THE SIX ALTERNATIVES, JOETZE SAID HE FAR PREFERRED (A) TO (B).
2. JOETZE SAID POLITICAL DIRECTOR VAN WELL HAD NOT YET HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW THE FORMULA WHICH HE AND MEYER-LANDRUT HAD DRAFTED (REF B). SINCE VAN WELL WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO FOCUS ON IT UNTIL THIS AFTERNOON, THE FRG NATO REP WOULD NOT HAVE ANY INSTRUCTIONS FOR THIS AFTERNOON'S POLADS MEETING.
3. JOETZE REITERATED TO US FRG INTEREST IN AVOIDING AN INTERMINABLE MAIN MEETING. HE NOTED THE GERMAN INTEREST
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PAGE 02 BONN 07130 261552Z

WAS RELATED DIRECTLY TO DOMESTIC POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS, I.E., THE SERIES OF STATE ELECTIONS BEGINNING IN HAMBURG IN THE SPRING OF 1978. ACCORDING TO JOETZE, THESE ELECTIONS REPRESENT A "QUESTION OF EXISTENCE" FOR GENSCHER'S FDP, AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER DOES NOT WANT TO HAVE HIS PARTY VULNERABLE TO OPPOSITION ATTACKS ABOUT A BELGRADE FOLLOW-UP CONFERENCE WHICH DRAGS ON.

4. COMMENT: WHILE WE EXPLAINED TO JOETZE THAT THE U.S. DID NOT WANT AN INTERMINABLE FOLLOW-UP EITHER (PARA 3, REF C), THE UNSPOKEN GERMAN FEAR SEEMS TO BE THAT U.S. HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY AND TACTICS TO FURTHER THAT POLICY AT BELGRADE MIGHT IN FACT PRODUCE SUCH A CONFERENCE. IT IS CLEAR THAT JOETZE AND MEYER-LANDRUT WILL WISH TO EXPLORE IN DEPTH U.S. INTENTIONS IN THIS REGARD DURING THE MAY 26-27 US-FRG BILATERALS.
STOESSEL

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